AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An oral formulation ~~prepared by a process comprising mixing a bisphosphonic acid derivative and at least one carbohydrate alcohol to form a dry blend, wet granulating the dry blend with an aqueous binder so as to obtain an intragranular phase, and further formulating the resulting intragranular phase so as to provide the formulation~~which includes an intragranular phase comprising a bisphosphonic acid derivative and at least one carbohydrate alcohol, together with an aqueous binder.

2. (Original) A formulation according to claim 1, which does not contain lactose.

3. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is selected from the group consisting of alendronic acid, clodronic acid, ibandronic acid, etidronic acid, pamidronic acid, risedronic acid and tiludronic acid, or a salt or hydrate, thereof.

4. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is present in salt form.

5. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 4, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is present as a sodium, disodium or trisodium salt, optionally in hydrated form.

6. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is present as a monohydrate, dihydrate or trihydrate.

7. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is selected from the group consisting of alendronate sodium trihydrate, etidronate disodium and risedronate sodium monohydrate.

8. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 7, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is alendronate sodium trihydrate.

9. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 7, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is etidronate disodium.

10. (Withdrawn) A formulation according to claim 7, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is risedronate sodium monohydrate.

11. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the bisphosphonic acid derivative is present in the range of 0.5% to 40%.

12. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate alcohol is selected from the group consisting of mannitol, maltitol, sorbitol, lactitol, erythritol and xylitol.

13. (Original) A formulation according to claim 12, wherein the carbohydrate alcohol is mannitol.

14. (Currently Amended) An oral formulation which includes an intragranular phase comprising a bisphosphonic acid derivative and a carbohydrate alcohol which is mannitol, together with an aqueous binder ~~wherein the formulation is prepared by a process comprising mixing a bisphosphonic acid derivative and the mannitol to form a dry blend, wet granulating the dry blend with an aqueous binder so as to obtain an intragranular phase, and further formulating the resulting intragranular phase so as to provide the formulation.~~

15. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 14, which comprises 15 to 90% of the carbohydrate alcohol.

16. (Original) A formulation according to claim 15, which comprises 15 to 50% of the carbohydrate alcohol.

17. (Original) A formulation according to claim 16, which comprises 15 to 40% of the carbohydrate alcohol.

18. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the intragranular phase further comprises one or more diluents and / or disintegrants.

19. (Original) A formulation according to claim 18, wherein the diluent is selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline cellulose, powdered cellulose, calcium phosphate-dibasic, calcium sulfate, dextrates, dextrins, alginates and dextrose excipients.

20. (Original) A formulation according to claim 19, wherein the diluent is microcrystalline cellulose.

21. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 19, wherein the diluent is present in the range of 15 to 90%.

22. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 18, wherein the disintegrant is selected from the group consisting of one or more of low substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, calcium carboxymethylcellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sodium starch glycolate, crospovidone, croscarmellose sodium, starch, crystalline cellulose, hydroxypropyl starch, and partially pregelatinized starch.

23. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 22, wherein the disintegrant is sodium starch glycolate.

24. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 22, wherein the disintegrant is present in the range of 5 to 20%.

25. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous binder is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl

methylcellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose sodium, polyvinylpyrrolidones, starches, gelatins and povidones.

26. (Original) A formulation according to claim 25, wherein the binder is starch.

27. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 25, wherein the binder is present in the range of 1 to 15%.

28. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, which further comprises one or more lubricants.

29. (Original) A formulation according to claim 28, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of talc, magnesium stearate, stearic acid, hydrogenated vegetable oils, glyceryl behenate, polyethylene glycols and derivatives thereof, sodium lauryl sulphate and sodium stearyl fumarate.

30. (Original) A formulation according to claim 29, wherein lubricant is magnesium stearate.

31. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 28, wherein the lubricant is present in the range of 0.5 to 5%.

32. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, which is a tablet.

33. (Previously Presented) A formulation according to claim 1, which is a capsule.

34-52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) [[The]]A formulation [[of]]according to claim 1, wherein the bisphophonic acid derivative comprises alendronic acid.